

In the Specification:

Please substitute the accompanying page 6 of the Specification for the corresponding page 6 in the application as filed. Please substitute the following paragraph for the first paragraph under Background of the Invention beginning at line 16 on page 1 of the Specification:

Plant biomass as a source of energy production can include agricultural and forestry products, associated by-products and waste, municipal solid waste, and industrial waste. In addition, over 50 million acres in the United States are currently available for biomass production, and there are a number of terrestrial and aquatic crops grown solely as a source for biomass (A Wiselogel, et al. Biomass feedstocks resources and composition—in CE Wyman, ed. Handbook on Bioethanol: Production and Utilization. Washington, DC: Taylor & Francis, 1996, pp 105-118). Biofuels produced from biomass include ethanol, methanol, biodiesel, and additives for reformulated gasoline. Biofuels are desirable because they add little, if any, net carbon dioxide to the atmosphere and because they greatly reduce ozone formation and carbon monoxide emissions as compared to the environmental output of conventional fuels. (P Bergeron. Environmental impacts of bioethanol—in CE Wyman, ed. Handbook on Bioethanol: Production and Utilization. Washington, DC: Taylor & Francis, 1996, pp 90-103).

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3-13, 15, 28, 29 and 33, as follows: